

A new species of *Baeochelys* from Kenya
and records of a few seldom reported
asiatic endomychids.
(Coleoptera: Endomychidae)

by

H. F. STROHECKER

With 5 figures

ABSTRACT

Mycetina variicornis (Arrow) reported from W Bengal, *Eucteanus eucerus* Arrow from Meghalaya and *Beccariola pallida* (Arrow) from S Kerala. *Baeochelys plagiatus* n. sp. from Kenya described.

EUMORPHINAE

Mycetina variicornis (Arrow) (Fig. 5)

Engonius variicornis Arrow, 1925: 317.

Mycetina variicornis: STROHECKER 1971: 14 (lectotype designated).

Figure 5 was drawn from one of the specimens at hand but has been closely compared with drawings made from the lectotype, both dried preparations. It is probable that the slender apophysis lies closer to the shaft in life.

India: W Bengal, Darjeeling dist., Mahanadi, 1200 m, 6-X-78, Besuchet-Löbl, 3 males, 1 female.

Beccariola pallida (Arrow)

Beccaria pallida Arrow, 1922 (1923): 488; 1925: 347, fig. 64.

Beccariola pallida: STROHECKER, 1953: 84.

The unique female type from N Malabar is somewhat soft and its pale yellow color is probably due to immaturity. The general color of the specimen at hand is dark red, the elytra narrowly black-bordered.

India: Kerala, Trivandrum Dt., Poonmudi Range, 3000 ft, V-72, T. R. S. Nathan, 1 female.

ENDOMYCHINAE

Eucteanus eucerus Arrow

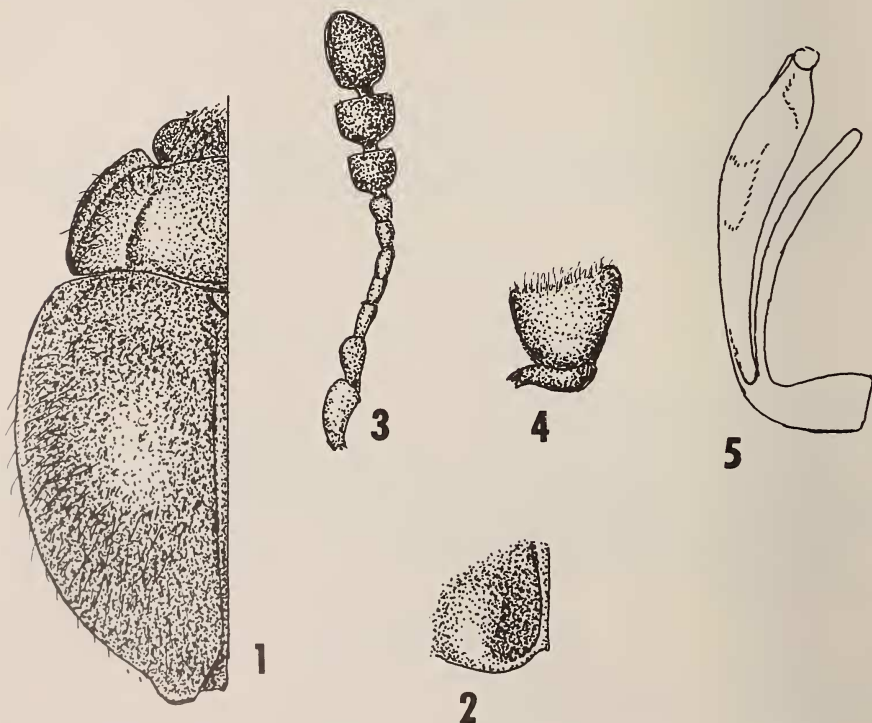
1920: 68; 1925: 355, pl. fig. 3.

Very similar, including aedeagus, to *E. dohertyi* Gorham but with more distinct elytral shoulders.

India: Meghalaya, Khasi Hills, Mawphlang, 1200 m, 28-X-78, Besuchet-Löbl, 8 specimens.

MYCHOTHENINAE

SASAJI (1978: 8) has proposed this subfamily to include a number of genera hitherto included in the Mycetinae. In these forms the mesepimeron is excluded from the meso-coxal cavity, which is closed by the sterna. A further distinction, as yet studied in but few genera, is a difference in structure of the tentorium. The insects are of generally rotund outline.



FIGS. 1-5.

1. *Baeochelys plagiatus* sp. n. — 2. *Baeochelys plagiatus* sp. n. Elytral apex of male, caudal view. — 3. *Baeochelys plagiatus* sp. n. Antenna. — 4. *Baeochelys plagiatus* sp. n. Labial palp. — 5. *Mycetina variicornis* (Arrow) Aedeagus, left side.

Generic assignment of many of these small beetles is difficult. The species described below appears most similar to two for which I proposed the genus *Baeochelys* (1974: 539).

***Baeochelys plagiatus* n. sp. Fig. 1-4**

Holotype: male, Kenya, Embu, Irangi Forest St., 2000 m, sifted, 11-X-77, Mähner-Perret (Geneva Museum). Allotype: female, with same data (Geneva Museum). One female paratype with same data (author).

Subrotund in outline, strongly convex. Dark rust-red, each elytron with a large black patch which leaves the base, sides, suture and apex rust-red. Length 1.9 mm, width 1.5 mm.

Antenna .7 mm long, 10-jointed, joint 1 stout elongate, 2 somewhat clavate, shorter and narrower than 1, 3 much narrower than 2 and cylindric as are 4-6, 8-10 forming a large, loosely articulated club; articles 1-6 rust-red, 7 dusky, 8-10 black. Head wide, eyes large and prominent, finely faceted. Pronotum about $2\frac{1}{2} \times$ as wide (base) as long (mid-line), sides gently curved, margins rather wide, disc finely and sparingly punctate, lateral sulci long and curved, broader at base and connected by a transverse sulcus close to base, which is bisinuate but without distinct median lobe. Elytra suborbicular in outline, their combined width slightly greater than their length, narrowly margined at sides, disc strongly convex, coarsely and rather densely punctate, pubescence short and semi-erect, parasutural stria fairly deep. The elytra of male appear truncate at apex due to a broad pre-apical lobe; elytra of female evenly rounded to apex. Inner wings aborted. Femora fairly stout, extending to sides of body, tibia slender, tarsi 3-jointed, claws simple. Last joint of labial palp trapezoidal, of maxillary palp conoid. Prosternum with high median ridge, spinasternum extended behind front coxae, unmarginated, mesosternum flat.

In the modification of elytral apex of male this species is similar to *B. humicola*, but is less convex, with relatively shorter antennal club and much longer pronotal sulci.

REFERENCES

- ARROW, G. J. 1920. A contribution to the classification of the coleopterous family Endomychidae. *Trans. R. ent. Soc. Lond.* 1920: 1-83, 1 pl.
- 1922 (1923). Notes on endomychid Coleoptera and descriptions of new species in the British Museum. *Trans. R. ent. Soc. Lond.* 1922: 484-500.
- 1925. Fauna of British India. Coleoptera. Erotylidae, Languriidae and Endomychidae. *London*, viii+416 pp., 1 pl.
- SASAJI, H. 1978. Notes on the Japanese Endomychidae, with an establishment of a new subfamily. *Mem. Fac. Ed., Fukui Univ.*, Series II (Nat. Sci.), No. 28, part 1: 1-31.
- STROHECKER, H. F. 1953. Coleoptera. Fam. Endomychidae. *Genera Insect.*, fasc. 210: 1-140, 5 pls.
- 1971. The genera *Engonius* and *Parindalmus*. *Pacific Ins.* 13: 13-25.
- 1974. New genera and species and some synonymic notes on African Endomychidae. *Revue zool. afr.* 88: 533-540.

Author's address:

University of Miami
Department of Biology
Coral Gables, FL 33124, USA